

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims 1, 14, 20-22 and 32 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A print-on-demand method for creating and reproducing books by heterogeneous systems, said method comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining book files in job definition format (JDF) from at least one of a memory, scanner and network, said book files including book identification information and book production information, wherein said book files are compiled into a digital representation of a book targeted for reproduction;

b) converting said book files from JDF into a master book embodied in common normal format (CNF) files that are reproduction system and solution-independent;

c) storing the said CNF files in memory as a mastered book;

d) determining if said CNF files need to be converted into equipment specific format files based on a book reproduction system to be utilized for reproduction and if conversion is necessary, thereafter converting the said CNF files into said equipment specific format files including JDF definitions that match the needs of ~~[[a]]~~ said book reproduction system; and

e) reproducing said book ~~with said equipment-specific-format files~~ at said book reproduction system.

2. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book in step a) is originally in the form of electronic files.

3. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book in step a) is originally in the form of a hard copy, and step a) further comprises the steps of:

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scanning the components of said book; and
converting scanned components of said book into said digital representation.

4. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book identification information comprises the book title.

5. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book identification information comprises the book author.

6. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book identification information comprises the book publisher.

7. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book identification information comprises the International Standard Book Number.

8. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said book identification information comprises the book publishing date.

9. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein step d) comprises the step of:
acquiring or generating hard copy book production information.

10. (Original) The method in Claim 9, wherein said book production information comprises printing information.

11. (Original) The method in Claim 9, wherein said book production information comprises binding information.

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12. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein step d) further comprises the step of:

via a Raster Image Processor, creating a bitmap of the book block.

13. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein step d) further comprises the step of:

via a Raster Image Processor, creating a bitmap of the book cover.

14. (Currently Amended) The method in Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 13, wherein step d) further comprises the step of:

acquiring or generating hard copy book production information.

15. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein for electronic books, said book production information comprises security information.

16. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein for electronic books, said book production information comprises viewing capabilities.

17. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein for electronic books, said book production information comprises printing capabilities.

18. (Original) The method in Claim 1 wherein step e) comprises for electronic books, the step of:

providing access to said book via an electronic link to a data network.

19. (Original) The method in Claim 1 wherein step e) comprises for electronic books, the step of:

delivering said book to a predefined destination.

20. (Currently Amended) A print-on-demand system for creating and reproducing books by heterogeneous reproduction workflows, said system comprising:

at least one of a scanner, memory and data network for obtaining book contents for a book targeted for reproduction;

a book file generator adapted to generate a digital representation of said book targeted for reproduction into book files including book identification information and book production information in job definition format (JDF);

a common normal format converter adapted to convert said book files into a common normal format that is reproduction system and solution-independent;

a book file memory adapted to store common normal format files representing said book targeted for reproduction as a mastered book;

an equipment specific format file converter adapted to determine if said common normal format files need to be converted into equipment specific format files based on a book reproduction equipment to be utilized for reproduction and if conversion is necessary, thereafter adapted to convert said common normal format files into [[a]] said equipment specific format files including JDF definitions matching the needs of [[a]] said book reproduction equipment being utilized to reproduce the said book; and

a book reproducer adapted to reproduce the said book from information comprised by the said equipment specific format files.

21. (Currently Amended) The system in Claim 20, wherein said book in ~~step a)~~ is originally in the form of electronic files.

22. (Currently Amended) The system in Claim 20, wherein said book in ~~step a)~~ is originally in the form of a hard copy, and said book file generator further comprises:

a book scanner adapted to scan the components of said book; and
a scanned component converter adapted to convert scanned components of said book into said digital representation.

23. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said book identification information comprises the book title.

24. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said book identification information comprises the book author.

25. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said book identification information comprises the book publisher.

26. (Original) The method in Claim 20, wherein said book identification information comprises the International Standard Book Number.

27. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said book identification information comprises the book publishing date.

28. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said equipment specific format converter comprises:

a book production information generator adapted to generate hard copy book production information.

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29. (Original) The system in Claim 28, wherein said book production information comprises printing equipment information.

30. (Original) The system in Claim 28, wherein said book production information comprises binding equipment information.

31. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said equipment specific format converter comprises:

a Raster Image Processor adapted to create a bitmap of the book block.

32. (Currently Amended) The system in Claim 20, further comprising ~~wherein step d) further comprises the step of:~~

a Raster Image Processor adapted to create a bitmap of the book cover.

33. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein said equipment specific format converter comprises:

a book production information generator adapted to generate hard copy book production information.

34. (Previously amended) The system in Claim 28, wherein for electronic books, said book production information comprises security information.

35. (Previously amended) The system in Claim 28, wherein for electronic books, said book production information comprises viewing capabilities.

36. (Original) The system in Claim 20, wherein for electronic books, said book production information comprises printing capabilities.

37. (Original) The system in Claim 20 wherein said book reproducer comprises for electronic books:

an electronic link adapted to provide access to said book.

38. (Original) The system in Claim 20 wherein said book reproducer comprises for electronic books:

an electronic link adapted to deliver said book to a predefined destination over a data network.